12 Thursday, February 24, 2000

## HOUSING From Page 3

director of the Chapel Hill Downtown Commission, said there was a definite shortage of realty specifically tailored for students' needs

"In my opinion, there is a definite shortage of housing adjacent to the community," he said. "We need some areas close to to campus where student housing can be built."

Humphreys also criticized the University for not providing more on and off-campus living areas designated specifically for college students.

"The University has never provided adequate housing on campus," he said. "Students have always had to live off campus - that is why residents complain

Aaron Nelson, UNC coordinator of local relations, said the University was trying to live up to its commitment to provide housing for students.

"They understand the responsibility to house a portion of students," he said. "But even if they built 24,000 beds, some would still be empty – some students just want to live off campus." Other officials said they were still

worried that the proposed increase in the number of students will make offcampus housing even more difficult for students and will affect residential areas.

The University seems to want to double its student populations," Humphreys said. "And yet we are not allowing a doubling of our living spaces

Tony Hall, owner of Tony Hall & Associates realtors in Chapel Hill, said many students teamed up with their parents to help share the costs of a condo-

"The parent will buy a two-bedroom condo," he said. "The student will then

But he said students in the anti-sweat-

**SWEATSHOPS** 

War: the fear of the draft.

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rent one of the rooms to the roommate. That can offset the mortgage payment – you can get tax benefits that are interest deductible."

Hall also said students and their par ents often looked to buy, rather than rent, an apartment. "A lot of times parents compare the

cost of buying to renting," he said. "It sometimes makes better financial sense. Interest rates are low, but rent is high." But most students attempt to offset

the problem of high rent by choosing to

share their living quarters. Kent Clayton, a senior from Fayetteville who lives in the Stratford Hills apartments, said the cost of rent forced him to find roommates.

"The Chapel Hill area overall has very high-priced real estate," he said. "I have to live with two others to split the

Presler said many students also found themselves in the same situation as Clayton and chose to share property with others out of financial necessity.

"(The high costs) put students in a bind," he said. "That causes them to have to double up." But a proposal introduced to Chapel

Hill Town Council last year could limit this option.

November, the Northside In Association, an organization of con-cerned residents, presented an ordi-nance to the Chapel Hill Town Council that would limit the number of unrelated residents living in an apartment from four to two.

Many students are concerned that the proposal will negatively impact stu-dents economically. Lee Conner, presi-dent of UNC's Graduate and Professional Student Federation, said he thought the proposal would harm students

"Rental prices are bad enough as they are," he said. "They would go through

movement is very interesting, in that students are addressing issues not so much as citizens, but as consumers."

But the sentiments of student activists indicate a different impetus for students.

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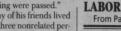
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it directly affects them, because they are paying tuition and enabling it. They are a part of the cycle even if they're not wearing the clothes.

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rights violation," she said. "Activists feel



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the ceiling if this thing were passed." Conner said many of his friends lived in apartments with three nonrelated per-sons. He said that if those people were forced to live elsewhere, many students similar situations would be financially burdened. "It's basic ECON 10," he said. "It

would create a major demand for an increase in the number of units, which in turn would drive prices up. Think how many people would be out on the maret looking for a place." Conner and Chapel Hill realtor Steve

Mills proposed a counterproposal to the

large area on the west side of Airport Road, between Homestead Road and Estes Drive. A University planning committee is considering using the space for

gradu ate student housing. "The University has a great resource out there undeveloped," he said. "We want to have some type of hous-ing for graduate students on the tract."

Mayor Rosemary Waldorf said the Town Council had tabled both proposals temporarily.

"The Northside proposal was referred to the manager for review," she said. "We have no deadlines – the council has taken no action."

Presler said town officials, University students, realtors and local residents should all work together to remedy the problem of affordable housing for college students in Chapel Hill.

"We need to stop pointing fingers," he said.

"It is time to all get together and find a solution so students will not keep get-ting screwed."

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Sproule said the WRC was founded by workers, students and labor advo-cates. "The WRC forces information out into the open and gives a lot more visi-bility to the system," she said. "People

say sweatshops flourish when hidden, which is what happens under the FLA." The "sweatshop party" was planned as part of an effort to encourage administration to meet two SEJ deadlines for withdrawal from the FLA and enrollment in the WRC. The cost of membership in either organization is the

same, so a change would not involve any additional spending, Pugatch said. SEJ has asked that the advisory committee provide interim Chancellor Bill McCoy with a recommendation con-

cerning the WRC by March 10 and that Dilbert©

McCoy come to a decision by April 3. Pugatch said these deadlines would enable UNC to join the WRC in time to particpate in the WRC's April 7 found-

ing conference in New York City. "If you aren't signed on by that time, you can't participate in the founding conference and have a say in the struc-ture of the WRC," he said. "We wanted by University to here one ways and the struc-ture of the WRC, where the concentration of the the struc-ture of the WRC, where the concentration of the the struc-ture of the WRC, where the concentration of the the struc-ture of the WRC, where the concentration of the the struc-ture of the WRC, where the concentration of the struc-ture of the WRC, where the structure of the structure of the structure of the the structure of t the University to have that opportunity." Rut Tufts, advisory committee cochairman and director of auxiliary services, said it was too early to be upset

about the choice. Tufts said he felt the FLA was the better option but added that the committee would examine the WRC in more detail in upcoming weeks. He said, "We're still in the process of trying to evaluate the two (organizations)

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From Page 3 not yet been charged with any other crimes.

BUST

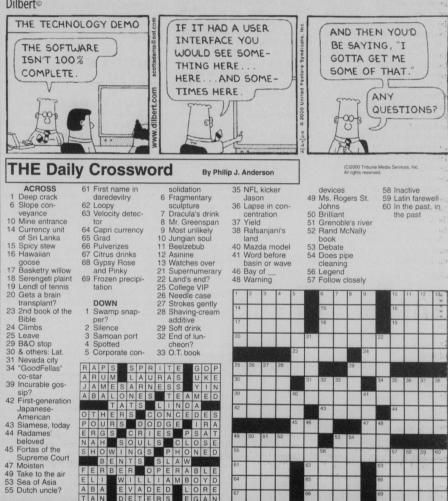
Lee has a prior arrest record in Chapel Hill, which includes two other breaking-and-entering charges in 1992 and one charge of possession of a bur-glary tool, also in 1992. Lee was also arrested in 1982 for

The Daily Tar Heel

attempted breaking and entering. As of Wednesday, Lee was being held in Orange County Jail in Hillsborough in lieu of a \$2,500 secured

bond. He is set to appear in Orange County District Court in Hillsborough on March 6.

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Northside Association's proposal Feb. 9. Conner said part of the proposal sought to annex a portion of the UNC owned Horace-Williams property, a



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